

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 SP-02 NSC-05 INR-05
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FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5422
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2578

LIMDIS

E O 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV AKB UR
SUBJ: RUDOLPH HESS: DISPOSITION OF REMAINS

REF: (A) USBERLIN 2450, (B) BONN 15162, (C) BONN 14647,
(D) USBERLIN 1762, (E) BONN 11339, (F) 76 BONN 19026

SUMMARY: DURING 30 SEPTEMBER CALL ON CHAIRMAN POLAD, KHOTULEV
TURNED TO ALLIED SCENARIO CONCERNING DISPOSITION OF HESS'
REMAINS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF 1970 AGREEMENT (REFTEL F) WHICH
HAD BEEN HANDED TO KHOTULEV BY CHAIRMAN POLAD ON 20 SEPTEMBER
(REFTEL A). KHOTULEV FOUND IT USEFUL AND THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE
CONFIRMED BY AN EXCHANGE OF NOTES. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING 30 SEPTEMBER CALL ON CHAIRMAN (FRENCH) POLAD ON
SEVERAL ITEMS, SOVIET EMBASSY MINISTER KHOTULEV PRESENTED
SOVIET RESPONSE TO CHAIRMAN (FRENCH) POLAD REQUEST OF
20 SEPTEMBER (REFTEL A) TO CONSIDER ALLIED SCENARIO (REFTEL F)
IN IMPLEMENTATION OF 1970 AGREEMENT FOR DISPOSITION OF
HESS' REMAINS IN THE EVENT OF HIS DEATH AT SPANDAU.
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2. KHOTULEV STATED THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO
ACCEPT THE CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS DETAILED IN THE ALLIED
SCENARIO. HE NOTED THAT SINCE THE CHRONOLOGY COMPLETES THE
1970 AGREEMENT, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO REGULARIZE THE 1970
AGREEMENT BY ADDING TO IT A PROTOCOL NOTE STATING THE ACCORD
OF ALL ON THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS. THIS COULD BE DONE AT THE

POLAD LEVEL OR AT THE SPANDAU GOVERNORS LEVEL. FRENCH POLAD TOOK NOTE AND OFFERED PERSONAL OPINION THAT IF ALLIES SHARED OPINION ON UTILITY OF A PROTOCOL, SPANDAU GOVERNORS WOULD BE BETTER CHANNEL. FRENCH POLAD ALSO REITERATED THAT ALLIES HAVE NOT ABANDONED THE HOPE OF CHANGING SOVIET POSITION ON CREMATION OF HESS' REMAINS, AND RESERVE RIGHT TO RETURN TO QUESTION LATER.

3. COMMENT: SOVIET REACTION IS A MIXED BLESSING. ON THE ONE HAND IT SETS STAGE FOR AVOIDANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS IN THE EVENT HESS DIES WHILE STILL AT SPANDAU. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT DRIVES U.S. DEEPER INTO THE CONCRETE OF THE 1970 AGREEMENT PROVISIO THAT HESS' REMAINS WILL BE CREMATED. WE INTERPRET FRENCH POLAD PERSONAL OPINION TO AVOID POLAD CHANNEL AS HIS WAY OF INDICATING THAT ALLIES SHOULD AVOID THE HIGHER POLITICAL CHANNEL IF WE DO DECIDE TO REACH A FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH SOVIETS ON ALLIED SCENARIO. THE HIGHER THE POLITICAL CHANNEL, THE MORE WE WOULD CONSIDER OUR AGREEMENT (AND THE MORE THE SOVIETS WOULD CONSIDER OUR AGREEMENT) AS IRREVOCABLE. ALLIED MISSIONS WILL CONSULT ON NEXT STEPS TO TAKE AND ADVISE ALLIED REPS IN BONN OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS.GEORGE

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